

Members

Kevin Brinegar, Chairperson
Cordelia Lewis-Burks
James Gutting
Jimmy Neal
Theresa Wright



GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY COMMISSION SUBCOMMITTEE ON MEDICAID AND HUMAN SERVICES

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MEETING MINUTES¹

Meeting Date: September 29, 2004
Meeting Time: 3 P.M.
Meeting Place: State House, 200 W. Washington St., 233
Meeting City: Indianapolis, Indiana
Meeting Number: 12

Members Present: Kevin Brinegar, Chairperson; Cordelia Lewis-Burks; James Gutting; Jimmy Neal; Theresa Wright.

Members Absent:

Mr. Kevin Brinegar, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

Changes to The Lewin Group Report

Mr. Brinegar distributed a copy of an email from Ms. Lisa Chimento, The Lewin Group, showing changes to the estimated savings in total state and federal funds for several items in the report presented at the September 14, 2004, meeting (Exhibit A). Mr. Brinegar indicated that he had not had time to discuss the changes with Ms. Chimento. Ms. Melanie Bella, Assistant Secretary, Family and Social Services Administration, in response to a question, said that she was not certain, but thought that the report may have used the CHIP match rate rather than the reimbursement rate related to the program under consideration.

FSSA Response to The Lewin Group Report

Mr. Brinegar called on Ms. Bella to respond to The Lewin Group report. Ms. Bella distributed a memorandum that outlined areas of concern or amplifications to the report (Exhibit B). Ms. Bella noted that number diverted from nursing homes was 1,516 and that the current average

¹ Exhibits and other materials referenced in these minutes can be inspected and copied in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for copies. These minutes are also available on the Internet at the General Assembly homepage. The URL address of the General Assembly homepage is <http://www.ai.org/legislative/>. No fee is charged for viewing, downloading, or printing minutes from the Internet.

occupancy rate was 84.7%, up from 65%. Also, she discussed the balance that was needed between the number of drugs available in a category on the drug list and concern for drug costs.

Ms. Bella next addressed Medicaid managed care expansion noting that The Lewin Group may have underestimated the difficulty in expansion to some of the counties suggested. She said that information from the The Lewin Group report would help direct the office in design of the MEDWorks program. She also outlined the steps that the Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning (OMPP) has taken to enhance revenues with nursing home facility bed assessments.

In a section of the report concerning areas for further analysis, Ms. Bella said that the full review of the mental health system was unclear, and that OMPP appreciates The Lewin Group recognition of the administrative requirements of their recommendations.

Ms. Bella covered future concerns of OMPP including the Medicare drug benefit and enrollment growth.

In response to questions from the Subcommittee, Ms. Bella indicated that the report had not contained any areas that had not been considered by OMPP, and she observed that opportunities for large cost savings are going away as costs have had to be contained to meet appropriations.

Public Comment

Mr. Brinegar asked Dr. Theressa Wright to discuss the memo she sent the Subcommittee. Dr. Wright indicated that the concern she had with the report was similar to what Ms. Bella had already discussed. She said that with complicated diseases, having only a couple of choices for medications could create other problems for patients.

Mr. Brinegar asked for other comments. Upon hearing none, the meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.